

this species, presented very many years ago to the British Museum by James Burton, the distinguished Egyptologist, came, in all likelihood, from the Eastern Desert about the latitude of Keneh.

*Eremias guttulata*, Licht.

Three specimens. This species is distributed all over Egypt, from Suez to Suakin.

*Psammophis Schokari*, Forskål.

This specimen, in its almost pale fawn-colour and the presence of two darker-coloured lines along the back and the obscure dotting of the ventrals, especially on the sides, and distinct head-markings, resembles the individuals of this species found at Durrur to the south. The number of its ventrals (190) largely exceeds the number found there and at Suakin, and in this respect it conforms to snakes of this species found at Assuan. It has 118 caudals.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES.

*Bird Books.*

*In Bird-land, with Field-glass and Camera.* By OLIVER G. PIKE. T. Fisher Unwin & Co. Pp. 1-280, with 83 photographs from Nature. 1900. Price 6s.

*The Birds of Eastern North America.* By CHARLES CORY. Printed for the Field Columbian Museum, Chicago, Ill. 1899. Parts I., II.

THE strides which photography has made among us of late years we regard with a jealous eye. Not satisfied with ousting the beautiful wood and steel engravings which adorned the pages of our older books, it has gone now so far as to displace literature itself, so that many of the "books" which are thrust upon a long-suffering and defrauded public to-day are practically little more than collections of bad pictures served up with a sprinkling of worse text—added for appearance's sake.

To every rule, however, there are exceptions; and there are occasions when we feel real gratitude towards the enthusiastic photographer.

Ornithologists are without doubt indebted to the Kearton brothers for the work which they have done and recorded in this field. The